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Public Health Reports.

(Formerly "Abstract of Sanitary Reports.")

Treasury Department, United States Marine-Hospital Service. Published in accordance with act of Congress approved February 15, 1893.

VOL. XI.

WASHINGTON, D. C., OCTOBER 2, 1896.

NO. 40.

UNITED STATES.

[Reports to the Supervising Surgeon-General United States Marine-Hospital Service.]

Report of cases of illness among the crew of the Norwegian bark Tenax Propositi at Cape Charles Quarantine.

CAPE CHARLES QUARANTINE, September 23, 1896.

SIR: I have the honor to report that the Norwegian bark *Tenax Propositi*, twenty-one days out from Cuyo, Mexico, reached this station on the 18th instant, bound for Hamburg, with the dead body of the master on board, 1 sailor in a dying condition, and 3 others sick. The master was ill fourteen days, the sailor, who died on the night of the 20th, had been sick twenty-one days. All were taken sick in same way—diarrhea, severe abdominal pains, exhaustion, and fever. I considered the illness due to some poison in the water taken on at Cuyo. An autopsy held on the sailor who died in quarantine revealed ulcers along the course of the cæcum, colon, and rectum, some nearly perforating and having caused an adhesive peritonitis. Liver and kidneys normal; bladder distended with urine, and stomach normal. The bark is now at Fishermans Island with crew ashore, and is being disinfected with Acting Assistant Surgeon Old in charge. On the 21st 2 more of the sailors were taken sick in the same way, with diarrhea and severe abdominal pains.

Very respectfully,

W. J. PETTUS,

Passed Assistant, Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

*Smallpox in the United States as reported to the Supervising Surgeon-General United States Marine-Hospital Service, May 9, 1896, to September 30, 1896.**

Places.	Date.	Cases.	Deaths.	Remarks.
Alabama:				
Mobile County.....	June 5.....	1.....		
	July 5.....	1.....		
Arkansas:				
Conway County.....	Sept. 18.....	1.....		
Faulkner County.....do.....	9.....		
Van Buren County.....do.....			Smallpox reported.

* For table of smallpox in the United States, etc., December 26, 1895, to May 9, 1896, see PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS No. 23.